In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 17 and 36, and amend claims 1 and 37-44, all as shown below.

1.   (Currently Amended):   A computer-readable medium containing instructions stored thereon, wherein the instructions comprise:

receiving an MBean definition file in XML format;

generating an MBean jar file from the MBean definition file, wherein the MBean jar file includes a tag for the MBean and a tag for each attribute, operation, and potential notification issued by the MBean;

placing the jar file in a predetermined directory within a managed server in a management domain, wherein the management domain is a collection of distributed servers that are managed as a unit; and

providing a custom management capability through the MBean over the management domain;

wherein scope of an MBean is a set of locations at which the MBean is available, and an MBean is not available to servers located outside the MBean's scope; and

wherein an administration server contains a copy of all sharable MBeans located in the management domain.

2 - 17. (Cancelled)

18.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the custom management capability tracks changes to MBeans throughout the management domain.

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19.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein each server node has a MBean server.

20.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the custom management capability provides an API for providing management services in the management domain.

21.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the custom management capability is customized by a user by adding schema attributes and extended persistence features.

22.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the custom management capability is packaged as a framework with multiple MBeans which a security provider can extend.

23.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein a MBean is accessed through a type MBean stub.

24.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein an MBean stub provides a reference to a java object which implements an interface specific to the MBean.

25.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 23, wherein stubs are generated dynamically at runtime.

26.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein a factory model is provided for creating MBean instances.

27.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein MBean delegates are derived from an existing MBean.

28.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein MBeans that are declared to be persistent are automatically saved to a repository.

29.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein each MBean is stored in a separate file and is shadowed for failsafe writes.

30.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the tag for each attribute includes name, package, persist policy, persist period, description, and display name.

31.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein the operation definition tag includes a sub-tag instance for each argument of the operation.

32.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 31, wherein attributes for the sub-tag instance are name and type.

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33. (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein a notification definition tag includes name, severity, and display name.

34. (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein a local MBean server handles read attribute requests and MBean creation and deletion requests for server specific MBeans.

35. (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein an MBean Server Proxy routes read access to an appropriate server and MBean instance within the appropriate server and routes write accesses to the corresponding MBean instance on the administration server.

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 36, wherein changes to an MBean are propagated from an administration server to all servers within the scope of the MBean.

38. (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 36, wherein applications and servers must go to a particular server to read a server-specific MBean.

39. (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 36, wherein all MBeans residing on a managed server are stored in the managed server's local repository in addition to the administration server's repository.

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40. (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 36, wherein the scope is specified in the MBean definition file.

41. (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 36, wherein the scope is specified for a specific instance upon creation.

42. (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 36, wherein the scope is stored in an the MBean information structure.

43. (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 36, wherein a request for a server specific MBean can may be handled by any MBean server in the management domain.

44. (Currently Amended): The computer-readable medium of claim 1 36, wherein accessing a server specific MBean is performed through a logical canonical server corresponding to a managed server that the server specific MBean resides upon.

45. (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein when a request is received for an MBean not available on a MBean server, the MBean server calls a method that returns a list of MBeans in a management domain or a specific subset of the management domain.

46. (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 45, wherein the MBean server uses user-provided information including a provided object name pattern to qualify a search

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of the list of MBeans in the management domain.

47.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 45, wherein an administration server contains a list of server specific MBeans in addition to shared MBeans.

48.   (Previously Presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 1, wherein an administration server handles attribute writes and MBean creation and deletion requests for sharable MBeans.